

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as indicated in the following list. Additions are indicated by underlining and deletions by strikethroughs. This list replaces all previous lists.

Claims 1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) A slat for use in a rolling shutter, comprising:

a body having a first edge, a second edge, a first side extending along a curve between the first edge and the second edge, and a second side extending along a curve between the first edge and the second edge;

an engaging track located at the first edge of the body, wherein the engaging track extends from the first edge along an arc; and

a receptacle track located at the second edge of the body and including:

a boss;

an aperture; and

first and second shoulders that separate the boss from the aperture, ~~wherein the receptacle track includes a discontinuous articulation surface having a first concave articulation surface having an end adjacent the body and an end adjacent an aperture of an articulation area spaced a distance apart from a second concave articulation surface having an end adjacent the body and an end adjacent the aperture, a gap disposed between the ends adjacent the body of the first and second articulation surfaces, and a lip adjacent to the first articulation surface extending away from the end adjacent the aperture of the first articulation surface towards the end adjacent the aperture of the second articulation surface.~~

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) The slat of claim 13, wherein the ~~curved surface~~ boss is configured to receive ~~the~~ a shaft of a screw for mounting a guide to the slat.

19-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) A slat for displaceable engagement with a shutter casing, the slat comprising:

- a body;

- a receptacle track connected with the body and including:

- a boss

- ~~receptacle, lip and guard, wherein the receptacle is configured to receive a retention device that is configured to displaceably engage the shutter casing; and wherein the lip and guard define a space~~

- a first aperture configured to articulatably retain a second slat; and

- first and second shoulders that separate the boss from the aperture; and

- an engaging track connected with the body and including a hook configured to couple with and articulate within ~~a space~~ a second aperture of a third slat.

29. (Previously presented) The slat of claim 28, wherein the retention device includes a retention screw.

30. (Currently amended) The slat of claim 28, wherein the hook of the engaging track is offset from a ~~longitudinal~~ cross-sectional axis of the body by an acute angle.

31. (Previously presented) The slat of claim 30, wherein the acute angle is about 20 degrees.

32. (Currently amended) A slat for displaceable engagement with a shutter casing, the slat comprising:

a body;

a receptacle track connected with the body and including:

a ~~boss~~~~receptacle, lip and guard, wherein the receptacle is~~ configured to receive a means for displaceably engaging the slat with the shutter casing; ~~and~~

a first aperture ~~wherein the lip and guard define a space~~ configured to articulatably retain a second slat; and

first and second shoulders that separate the boss from the aperture; and

an engaging track connected with the body and including a means for coupling with and articulating within ~~a space~~ a second aperture of a third slat.

33. (Currently amended) A roller shutter for displaceable engagement with a shutter casing, the roller shutter comprising:

a first slat; and

a second slat;

wherein the first slat includes:

a body;

a receptacle track connected with the body and including:

a ~~receptacle~~~~boss, lip and guard, wherein the receptacle is~~ configured to receive a retention device that is configured to displaceably engage the shutter casing; ~~and~~

an aperture ~~wherein the lip and guard define a space~~ configured to articulatably retain the second slat; and

first and second shoulders that separate the boss from the aperture; and

wherein the second slat includes:

a second body; and

an engaging track connected with the second body and including a hook configured to couple with and articulate within the ~~space~~ aperture of the first slat.

Application No. 10/802,385

Reply to Final Office Action Mailed July 13, 2007

34. (Currently amended) The slat of claim 3233, wherein the receptacle track and the engaging track are further configured so that movement between the receptacle track of the first slat and the engaging track of the second slat along a longitudinal cross-sectional axis of the first and second bodies is limited to about 0.043 inches or less.